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SPORTS
Deceiving record

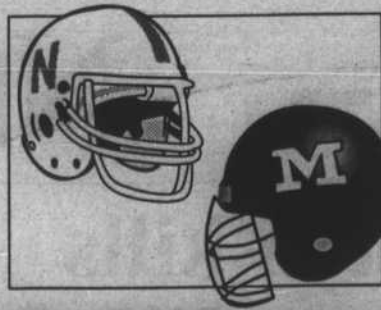
Missouri more than capable of upsetting Cornhuskers, Osborne says.
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Friday

68/35

Partly sunny and warm today. Saturday, morning clouds, becoming sunny. Warm again Sunday.



Cold War finds new life at UNL

Political science students simulate former rivalry

By Matthew Waite
Staff Reporter

The Cold War is not over. It's still being played out — in a University of Nebraska-Lincoln classroom.

Everything from the Bush administration to that little tattoo of the Korean Peninsula on Mikhail Gorbachev's head is alive and well in Political Science 466, Pro-Seminar on the Cold War.

The class simulates the Cold War. Students take on the roles of major players in the U.S. or Soviet government, including Bush, Gorbachev, Dick Cheney, Colin Powell and Boris Yeltsin.

"People have been really getting into their roles," said Jared Wittwer, a senior news-editorial major who plays an American journalist in the class.

Wittwer said many of the students were taking their roles seriously. Some have walked out of class, and others have screamed insults at each other.

Chad Meyer, portrayal of American Dennis Ross, recalled an event in which a member of the Soviet team walked out.

"(A class member) was upset because the whole American side was laughing at what she was saying," Meyer said. "So she said, 'I feel I'm not getting any respect from you guys,' and then got up. And as she left, poured water on one of the Americans. It's not known if it was intentional or not."

"But in the end there was a group hug."



Nicholas Taylor, left, an exchange student from Yorkshire University, England; Andrew Ringgold, a senior international affairs major; and Christopher Barden, a political science graduate student, discuss strategy during their political science class about the cold war.

William Lauer/DN

The class requires the two teams to formulate proposals on issues, such as human rights and the future role of Eastern Europe.

The teams present their sides in class to be debated later. The teams then choose a presenter for each point and negotiate a compromise. A compromise must be reached before the class ends.

Wittwer said the instructor, political science professor Ivan Volgyes, was part of the reason he took the class.

Dan Rezac, a senior finance and international economics major who plays Gorbachev, said the class was different from others he had taken at UNL.

“I think there are a lot of misconceptions that Americans have toward a communist system.”

— Vo,

UNL senior international business major

“It's one of the few times I have ever had a class that motivates you to go out and research the material

not because you have to, but because you want to,” he said.

Rezac said the debates created a rivalry between the teams. But outside of the class it's a different story; students leave the classroom as friends, he said.

But the unusual classroom technique isn't what makes the course special. Rather, students from varying backgrounds and areas of study make up the Cold War soldiers. Students from Japan, Sweden, the United Kingdom, Vietnam and Germany take part in the class.

Some students served in the mil-

See COLD WAR on 2

Selection of Bjorklund's jury keeps Sidney abuzz

By Dionne Searcey
Senior Reporter

A jury of five men and seven women was selected Thursday in a western Nebraska town where talk this week has centered on a murder trial 350 miles away.

Four alternates — all women — were also selected to serve for Roger Bjorklund's trial, which is scheduled to begin Monday in Lincoln.

Bjorklund, 31, and Scott Barney, 24, are charged in the slaying of University of Nebraska-Lincoln student Candice Harms of Lincoln.

Bob Moore, a reporter with The Sidney Telegraph, said the town was buzzing with conversation about juror selection.

"There's quite a bit of talk around town," Moore said.

Moore, who has covered part of the juror-selection process, said juror selection didn't happen every day in Sidney. The last time Moore remembered the town of Sidney talking about a murder trial was about 10 years ago, he said.

The entourage of five attorneys, three security officers, a judge, a bailiff, a court reporter and one man accused of first-degree murder has caused a stir in Sidney, he said.

Moore said he didn't think jurors' views would be tainted because of the attention the case has been given in Sidney.

Talk has focused mainly on jury selection, he said, and not on the details of the case.

"People wonder who is a part of the jury selection process," he said.

The 12 jurors and four alternates were chosen from a pool of 83 potential jurors.

Moore guessed most Sidney residents knew at least six of the candidates in the jury pool.

"The final 12, most people wouldn't know," he said.

And, he said, Sidney residents have not studied the details of the case.

"People here just regard that as a murder back east," Moore said. Although articles about the case appear in the local newspaper, "people probably don't get past the headline," he said.

Even Moore, a reporter who covered part of the juror-selection hearings, didn't know much about the case a few weeks ago, he said.

"I knew the name Bjorklund, but I didn't know if that was the victim or the (alleged) perpetrator," Moore said.

See JURY on 3

Spanier, Byrne back gender equity cause

Editor's note: This story is the last in a weeklong series that explored how Nebraska athletics has been — and will be — affected by the NCAA's implementation of gender equity.

By Tim Pearson
Senior Reporter

While other universities are cutting opportunities for male athletes to achieve gender equity, Chancellor Graham Spanier said, UNL will achieve equity without going that route.

"I'm very supportive of the gender equity movement nationally, and we're very committed to it at the University of Nebraska," he said. "What we're seeing around the country is that some people are trying to

reach gender equity goals by closing down men's sports or reducing opportunities for participation among men.

"We think that's the wrong approach."

Spanier said the right approach was for the university to expand opportunities for women.

"We're making sure women athletes have all the same opportunities as men," he said.

"We want to see that their scholarships are at the same level and that they have the same access to training facilities."



GENDER EQUITY

Spanier said the athletic department was doing a good job of trying to achieve gender equity by adding women's soccer. The addition of women's soccer in the fall of 1994 will bring the number of men's and women's teams to 11 each.

"We've been successful," Spanier said. "We added women's soccer, and now we have an equal number of men's and women's sports."

"And we think we're contributing to gender equity."

The university's efforts to find a coach for the program also will test its commitment to gender equity.

Nebraska has four women in top coaching and administrative positions in athletics.

Athletic Director Bill Byrne said

the university wanted to hire a woman to coach the soccer team.

"Our preference would be to hire a woman," he said, "as long as they have the proper qualifications. We want somebody who we feel can build a nationally competitive program."

But the athletic department judges coaches based on their qualifications, not their gender, he said.

Last summer, Dan Kendig was hired to coach the women's gymnastics team.

Byrne said athletic department officials hired a man to fill the position because they couldn't find a woman matching Kendig's qualifications.

"Our preference in those cases is

See EQUITY on 8

Pre-med, insurance students await health-care results

Most stay with major despite Clinton's plan

By Shane Tucker
Staff Reporter

Members of Congress may worry about the effects of Clinton's health-care proposals on the medical profession, but many UNL students with medical school plans aren't fretting yet.

"I don't think it's going to hurt the medical profession," Greg Alberts, a UNL senior biology major who plans to go to medical school, said.

Alberts said he thought some students might alter their career goals if the changes were sweeping, but he said the health-care proposals wouldn't affect his decision.

Changes in the medical profession as a result of the reforms are expected to include:

- Directing patients toward general practitioners to limit medical costs. Such a proposal would move patients away from specialized, highly technical facilities, including university medical centers.

- Increasing the number of general practitioners to 50 percent by limiting the number of residencies in specialist fields.

- Increasing the number of nurse practitioners and physician assistants by raising the number of federal programs providing them with assistance.

Kristi Weinberger, a junior, first-year nursing student, said she was encouraged by the proposal's focus on nurses.

Demand for nurses, Weinberger said, is

See MEDICAL on 6

Small insurance firms hit hardest by plan

By Steve Smith
Senior Reporter

UNL students looking for jobs in the insurance field and their professors are among the many people awaiting a decision on health care reform.

Students looking for work in the insurance field could face an unreceptive market in light of Clinton's proposed health care reform, especially if they are looking for employment in a smaller firm, one UNL professor said.

George Rejda, a professor of insurance and economics at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, said small insurance companies would be hit hardest by the president's proposal.

But because the health-care debate is in its early stages, the effects on job-seekers were difficult to nail down precisely, Rejda said.

Rejda said there were no concrete numbers to deal with at this time.

"It's hard to speculate on a topic with numbers being pulled out of the air like they are," Rejda said. "But it's pretty clear that jobs will be lost."

Rejda said a recent report estimated that, if passed, the reform package would eliminate anywhere from 200,000 to 400,000 jobs.

"That's a very small percentage in a country of 120 million workers," Rejda said. "Still, the loss of jobs in the insurance industry will hit smaller companies hardest."

Rejda, an economics professor who specializes in insurance policy, said he discussed the

See INSURANCE on 6